

CLAIMS

1. A product which is provided with a first information code which is arranged to redundantly code at least one first information element by means of a plurality of marks, characterised in that at least one additional information element is coded on the product by at least one of said plurality of marks being omitted on the product.

2. A product according to claim 1, in which the first information code comprises a plurality of first reference positions and in which each of said plurality of marks is associated with one of said first reference positions.

3. A product according to claim 2, which is provided with a second information code that comprises a plurality of second reference positions, which constitute a selection from said plurality of first reference positions, wherein said at least one additional information element is coded by the second information code by at least one of said plurality of second reference positions not having an associated mark.

4. A product according to claim 3, wherein the first reference positions define a first virtual raster, which has first raster lines and in which the first reference positions consist of points at which the first raster lines intersect.

5. A product according to claim 3 or 4, wherein said at least one additional information element is coded by how said plurality of second reference positions are placed in relation to said plurality of first reference positions.

6. A product according to any one of claims 3-5, wherein each second reference position in the second information code represents a first value if it has an

associated mark and a second value if it does not have an associated mark.

7. A product according to claim 6, wherein the second reference positions form at least one cell with 5 at least two second reference positions and wherein said at least one cell has a cell value that is determined by which values are represented by the second reference positions included in the cell.

8. A product according to claim 7, wherein said at 10 least one cell has a fixed placing in relation to the first information code.

9. A product according to claim 7 or 8, wherein said at least one additional information element is coded by the cell value of said at least one cell.

15 10. A product according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said at least one additional information element represents a position.

11. A product according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said at least one first information element represents a position.

20 12. A product according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said at least one first information element is coded by means of variation of a parameter for the marks.

25 13. A product according to claim 12, wherein each mark in the first information code has a value that is determined by said parameter.

14. A product according to claim 12 or 13, wherein 30 said parameter is one of the following: placing of the mark, shape of the mark, colour of the mark and size of the mark.

35 15. A method for coding, which method comprises redundantly coding at least one first information element in an information code by allocating a value to each of a plurality of marks, which value indicates how the mark is to be represented graphically when applying the information code on a product, and comprises coding at least one

additional information element in the information code by allocating a value to at least one of said plurality of marks, which value indicates that the mark is to be omitted during said application of the information code on a 5 product.

16. A computer program product, which comprises program code that is arranged to carry out a method according to claim 15 when it is executed by a computer.

17. A device for coding an information code, comprising a processing unit which is arranged to redundantly code at least one first information element in an information code by allocating to each of a plurality of marks a value that indicates how the mark is to be represented graphically when applying the information code on 10 a product, and to code at least one additional information element by allocating to at least one of said plurality of marks a value that indicates that the mark is to be omitted during said application of the information code on 15 a product.

18. A method for decoding an information code, comprising locating a plurality of marks in a digital representation of the information code, determining the values of the located marks for decoding at least one first information element, identifying at least one mark omitted in the information code and decoding at least one additional information element by means of said at least one additional information element.

19. A computer program, which comprises program code that is arranged to carry out a method according to claim 30 18 when it is executed by a computer.

20. A device for decoding an information code, comprising a processing unit which is arranged to locate a plurality of marks in a digital representation of the information code, to determine the values of the located marks for decoding at least one first information element, to identify at least one mark omitted in the information code and to decode at least one additional infor-

mation element by means of said at least one additional information element.

21. A product which is provided with an information code that codes at least one first information element by 5 means of a plurality of marks, characterised in that the product is further provided with at least one interference mark which has optical characteristics that differ from those of said plurality of marks.

22. A product according to claim 21, wherein said 10 plurality of marks are arranged to be detected by a decoding device, using which said at least one interference mark is not detectable due to its optical characteristics.

23. A product according to claim 21 or 22, wherein 15 said plurality of marks absorb infrared light and said at least one interference mark does not absorb infrared light.

24. A product according to any one of claims 21-23, wherein copy protection is achieved by means of said at 20 least one interference mark.

25. A product according to any one of claims 21-24, wherein the product comprises at least one interference mark for each first information element that is coded by the information code.

26. A product according to any one of claims 21-25, wherein the information code comprises a plurality of reference positions, wherein each of said plurality of marks is associated with one of said reference positions and wherein each information element is coded by a set of 30 a predetermined number of reference positions with associated marks.

27. A product according to claim 26, wherein each set has at least one reference position for which the associated mark is replaced by an interference mark.

28. A product according to claim 27, wherein each mark represents a value and each interference mark repre-

sents a different value to that of the mark that it replaces.

29. A method for producing a product with an information code that codes at least one first information element by means of a plurality of marks, comprising applying said plurality of marks on the product and applying at least one interference mark on the product, which interference mark has optical characteristics that differ from those of said plurality of marks.